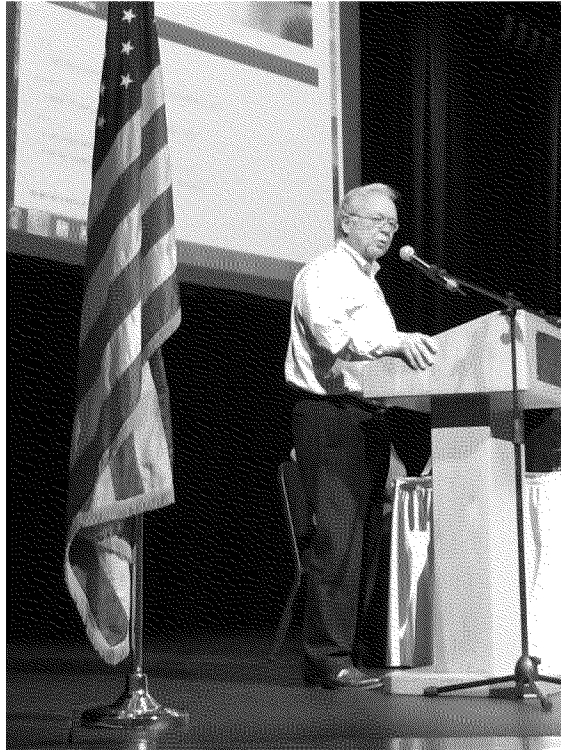


**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
Gold King Mine Spill - Region 6**



**Regional Administrator at Community Meeting in Farmington**

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region VI**

**Subject: POLREP #5  
Gold King Mine Spill - Region 6**

**Various New Mexico locations, NM  
Latitude: 36.8374600 Longitude: -107.9916800**

**From: Ronnie Crossland, Region 6 Regional Incident Commander (RIC)  
Date: 8/12/2015  
Reporting Period: 8/11/2015 0700 – 8/11/2015 1900**

**1. Introduction**

**1.1 Description of Threat**

Region 8 reported approximately three million gallons of mine waste water was released into Cement Creek and the Animas River. The primary environmental concern is the pulse of contaminated water containing sediment and metals flowing as an orange-colored discharge downstream through Durango, Colorado, and into New Mexico and Utah.

## **1.2 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results**

Water sampling is ongoing (analytical results are pending), and field pH levels and other water quality parameters are being monitored.

## **2. Current Activities**

Headquarters has established a joint website at [www.epa.gov/goldkingmine](http://www.epa.gov/goldkingmine).

Created a new general public call-in number for Regions 6, 8, and 9: 844-382-9670.

### **2.1 Operations Section**

ASPECT did not fly on August 11, 2015, due to weather conditions. They plan on flying on August, 12.

The R6 Regional Administrator and OSCs participated in the nightly community meeting in Farmington, New Mexico.

#### Private Drinking Water Well Sampling

Six private drinking water well teams collected samples on August 11, 2015 at 30 locations.

#### Surface Water and Sediment Sampling

Nine surface water and sediment samples were collected. Three of the nine sediment samples had visible discolored sediment material. One of these samples was from Farmington and two were from Aztec. Preliminary lab data from August 8, 2015, post slug samples has been received and are being validated and interpreted.

#### Agriculture and Livestock Water

San Juan County has requested water hauler trucks to start making deliveries. Each water hauler is estimated to be able to carry 5,000 gallons. One truck is needed per acre, which provides about a quarter inch of water.

Four water deliveries for agriculture or livestock needs were made on August 11, 2015. The limiting factor is the number of available trucks. We estimate 13 available trucks by the end of the week. San Juan County is coordinating loading points and logistics for staging and scheduling the trucks.

EPA assisted NMED by providing support at the residential water testing station located at the San Juan County Fair.

### Drinking Water Systems Update

Based on conversation with the State of New Mexico and drinking water systems on August 11, 2015, the following is the list of affected water systems and their status:

<b>System Name</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b># Days Water Available</b>
Aztec Domestic Water System	6800	10 days
Farmington Water System	47000	60 - 90 days
Lower Valley WUA	8428	8 days
Morningstar Water Supply System	6423	7-14 days
Northstar WDWCA	4123	45 days
Southside Mutual Domestic	1593	5 days but depends on Aztec
Upper La Plata WUA	2265	Depends on Aztec and Farmington
Flora Vista	4300	1 day but depend on Aztec
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>80,392</b>	

## **2.2 Finance Section**

### **Daily Cost Estimates Report**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>EPA Expended Payroll</b>	<b>EPA Expended Travel</b>	<b>Contract Costs</b>	<b>TOTAL Expended</b>	<b>Est. Burn Rate</b>
<b>EPA</b>	<b>\$70,650.00</b>	<b>\$18,600.00</b>	<b>\$270,600.00</b>	<b>\$359,850.00</b>	<b>\$131,160.00</b>

## **3. Participating Entities in Region 6**

US EPA  
USFWS  
NMED  
NM Department of Health  
NM Office of the State Engineer  
NM Department of Game and Fish  
County of San Juan – New Mexico

#### 4. Personnel

Group	Number
Region 6 EPA @ REOC	14
Region 6 Contractors @ REOC	4
Region 6 Staff in JIC – Durango, CO	1
Region 6 Staff in Area Command – Durango, CO	1
Region 6 RIC – Farmington, NM	1
Region 6 Logistics – Farmington, NM	1
Region 6 Water Liaison – Santa Fe, NM	1
Region 6 EPA OSC	4
Region 6/7 Water Technicians	12
Region 6 Contractors in Field	32